Bridgeport, Connecticut October 11, 1893

My dear Albert,

Your good letter came last night and we were all pleased to hear from you. We think you have improved a good deal since you wrote the last letter. This was very plain and it makes grandpa laugh. He could not make you a gun and he said I must find one for you downtown. Mary and I went down to Mr. Reed's store today and we found just one small gun, so we bought it for your birthday and hope that you will enjoy it real well. I hope it will not get broken in the mailbag. I will go down in the morning and mail it and hope you will get it next Sunday. I hope that you will like your new school and learn many good things. Don't ever point your gun toward Carl, or any other child, for you might injure someone firing sticks or stones. Perhaps you get some cattails to make them of, in the sloughs.

Mary and I went with Mrs. Lyons to dinner yesterday. They all sent love to you all. Mary goes to school forenoons. I shall not send her in cold, rough weather. We have not seen any frost yet and all the yards look bright. Your plants have given us such pleasure. The dahlias are full of flowers, mostly pearl color. They fell on the grass and morning glories run all over them. They look beautiful. The Lantana grew large and covered with flowers.

It is 10 o'clock, goodnight my dear Albert. We all wish you a real happy birthday. 9 years sounds big, don't it?

From Grandma.

Thursday morning. Bright and warm – wonderful weather! Mary has gone to school. She goes with Fannie and to Sunday school too. Mary and little Lillian ran up together and bumped heads awful hard. Made Lillian's nose bleed hard and Mary has quite a tender bump on her forehead. Grandpa Smith on Grove St. was buried yesterday.

I am going to the post office now with your gun for Grandpa could not leave his work to go. He only had 24 hours work last week and it is the same now. Mr. & Mrs. Strong and Belle are coming next Tuesday – your birthday.

Budgeport Com. nov. 24, 1893. Dear Albert, I have not work fora long time. I from an thinking about the army we had it was no good. Jan Bres. of the Bridgeport yacht Chib or the B. W. The raced on boy and beat him his name is sowidd sawager. Praphe you know him. Iwill norme the hnewless of the B. I. Sher are T 1. Charles tynch. tres Tr. 2. Robbie Barr vws. Prus. 3. Bert Barrows. 4. For ge Rew 5. Stewate Sounter. 5. Cliff Close, Seogrand radeingmoster J. Starold Van Heren I dosit know for swi about Storold All therest are steadfast. We have 50t in money for B, y, l.

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Christmas Bridgeport Com. Dec, 27, 1893. Dean albert ... Dalon't think it will supporte you array of Dolestert from of July a started savein Le 0,16,1893. me have storted. arrother array there are 14 in itulow Deant find the paper the Ill write as many and Jan.

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Thanks Albert, you dear little boy, for remembering to write me. Am glad to hear you have been doing such piles of work since you returned to dear old Minnesota. Give my very best regards to your dear little Ma, to Grandpa and Grandma, to my little sister Emma, and her husband, brother Dahlberg, and a good many kisses to dear little Carl and Ruth and all those other little cousins and relations. May the dear good Lord bless you every one. Yes, I know your birthday is near. It may even reach you before this letter does and though we cannot reach you this time with any good substantial presents, we wish you much blessing and many returns of a real happy birthday. But now we to say something about that cross-gun. I feel now more than ever that you deserve a good cross-gun. Am glad to hear you are soon to commence school. Learn to read and spell well. Then you have a splendid start in life. And I hope you will learn to speak and write well. The Swede language as well, as that would be a great help to you and especially if you should chance to spend a part of your years in the west. Bob and Bert Barrows are just the same good jolly fellows. Not long ago there was a Wild West show came along here with a lot of cowboys and Indians and now every boy on the street is either a cowboy or an Indian and Saturdays they have a great time. Put up a tent on the lot near Mr. Orton's and have a great powwow and they have a little cart with a big high boy on it, dress up 2 or 3 little fellers like Indians, put them on top. Half a dozen larger ones haul the cart. Then they form a street parade, and start off - the Indians capering around and cutting up, the cow fellers flourishing their guns and wearing broad-brimmed hats. Pretty slick. Oh, hold on a minute. Mary and Grandma have gone upstairs to bed and I'm here all by myself. If a cowboy or Indian should yell at me now wouldn't it scare me awful? Mary comes down in the morning just as I'm building the fire and says booooo just as she used to. ------ That means it's morning now. Grandma is flying round frying cakes and Mary hurrying to get ready for breakfast and say now where's my stocking !!! Now where's my shoes !!! O dear - now get hot water ready. Thank you - write again quick. Gram.